



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

*Presentation to the Savannah River Site
Citizens Advisory Board*

**Tank Closure Update
November 15, 2011**

**Sherri Ross
Waste Removal and Tank Closure
Waste Disposition Project
Programs Division**



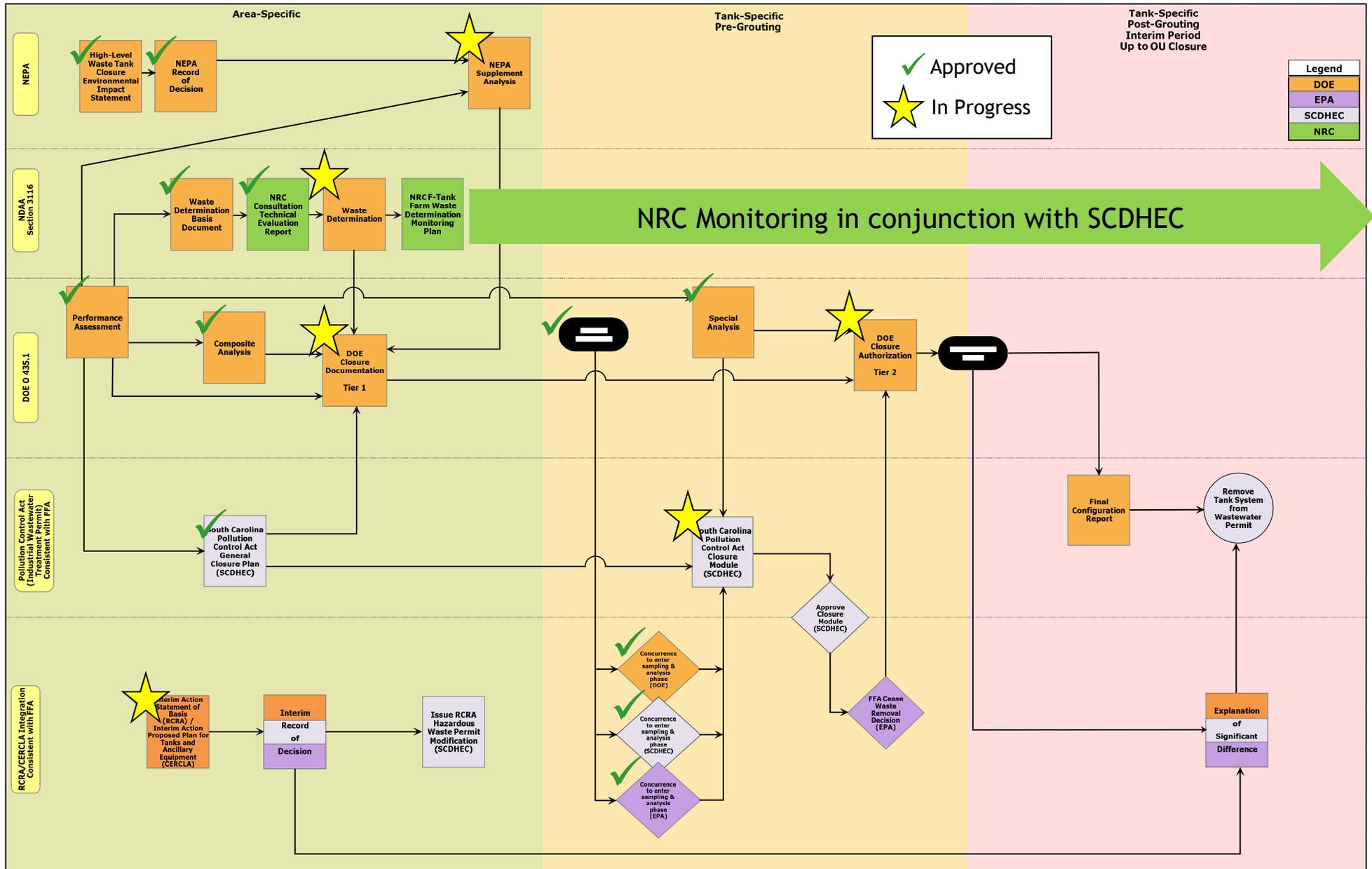
EM *Environmental Management*
safety ❖ performance ❖ cleanup ❖ closure

Purpose

- **Provide updated information concerning Tanks 18 and 19 in F Tank Farm**
 - **Regulatory Documentation Path (decisions to be made)**
 - **DOE's Waste Determination**
 - **DOE's NEPA Supplement Analysis**
 - **DOE's Decision to Close F Tank Farm**
 - **SCDHEC's approval of Tanks 18 and 19 Closure Module**
 - **DOE/SCDHEC/EPA agreement to cease waste removal in Tanks 18 and 19**
 - **DOE's authorization to close Tanks 18 and 19**
 - **Path Forward**



DOE-SR's Regulatory Documentation Path to Waste Tank Removal From Service



DOE's Waste Determination

- **Regulatory Driver: Section 3116(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005**
- **Decision: The Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), may determine that the residual waste, tanks and ancillary equipment in F Tank Farm at the time of closure are not high level wastes if the criteria in Section 3116(a) are met.**
- **Status: DOE is carefully considering the NRC's Technical Evaluation Report (TER)**
- **A decision by the Secretary of Energy is anticipated early next year (Jan/Feb 2012)**
- **DOE will provide public notice of the Secretary's decision and place supporting documents for public access at:
http://sro.srs.gov/f_htankfarmsdocuments.html**



NRC's Technical Evaluation Report (TER)

- **DOE received NRC's consultative TER on October 27, 2011**
- **DOE is carefully considering the NRC consultative TER**
- **DOE will factor NRC's recommendations, as well as public comments into its decision-making process, as appropriate**
- **DOE remains committed to protecting DOE workers, members of the public, and the environment**
- **DOE remains committed to reducing the risk associated with the storage of waste in the aging tanks at SRS**
- **DOE will work with SCDHEC and EPA pertaining to NRC's Tank 18 recommendations to facilitate all agencies decisions**



DOE's NEPA Supplement Analysis

- **Regulatory Driver: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
- **Decision: NEPA requirements have been met**
- **Status: Supplement Analysis in process.**
- **Approval by DOE Savannah River Operations Office Site Manager scheduled for Jan/Feb 2012**
- **DOE will publish an Environmental Bulletin and post for public access**



DOE's Closure of F Tank Farm Decision

- **Regulatory Driver: DOE Order 435.1 and Manual 435.1-1**
- **Decision: DOE's authorization to proceed with closure of the F Tank Farm (Tier 1 Authorization)**
 - **Identify all applicable closure requirements**
 - **Document how requirements will be met**
 - **Identify any special conditions or limitations**
 - **Authorize Savannah River Operations Office to proceed**
- **Status: Tier 1 Authorization document in process.**
- **Decision is made by the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM-1) and is scheduled for Jan/Feb 2012**



SCDHEC's Approval of Tanks 18 and 19 Closure Module

- **Regulatory Driver: Pollution Control Act, Industrial Wastewater Regulations**
- **Decision: SCDHEC's approval to close Tanks 18 and 19**
- **Status:**
 - **Closure Module has been reviewed by SCDHEC and EPA**
 - **Public comment period October 31 – December 15, 2011**
 - **Public meeting tonight at Aiken Municipal Building, 6:00 pm**
- **Decision is made by SCDHEC's Director of Water Facilities Permitting and is anticipated by March 2012**
- **DOE post for public access at:
http://sro.srs.gov/f_htankfarmsdocuments.html**



DOE/SCDHEC/EPA Agreement to Cease Waste Removal

- **Regulatory Driver: Federal Facility Agreement (FFA)**
- **Decision: Waste removal activities may cease for a specified tank or system**
- **Three agencies mutually agree: DOE, SCDHEC, and EPA**
 - **SCDHEC documents with approval of Closure Module**
 - **EPA documents in a Letter to DOE**
 - **DOE documents in Tier 2 Authorization**
- **Agreement needed by March 2012 to support meeting FFA commitment**



DOE's Authorization to Close Tanks 18 and 19

- **Regulatory Driver: DOE Order 435 and Manual 435.1-1**
- **Decision: DOE's authorization to proceed with closure of Tanks 18 and 19 (Tier 2 Authorization)**
 - **Document that all requirements have been met**
 - **Authorize and direct Operating Contractor to close the tanks**
- **Status: Pre-requisites underway**
- **Decision is made by Savannah River Operations Office Site Manager and is scheduled for April 2012 to support meeting FFA commitment**



Path Forward

- **DOE is carefully considering NRC's TER as well as public comments and will factor into all upcoming FTF decisions, as appropriate. (Jan/Feb 2012)**
- **Support completion of SCDHEC, EPA and DOE Tanks 18 and 19 decisions (March/April 2012)**
 - **Public meeting tonight**
- **DOE remains committed to protecting DOE workers, members of the public, and the environment**
- **DOE remains committed to reducing the risk associated with the storage of waste in the aging tanks at SRS**
- **DOE's goal is to meet FFA commitment (December 2012)**

